

SITE: Floyd Co. Recyc. Mercury Spill
BREAK: 2.10
OTHER: v. 1

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
INITIAL and FINAL POLLUTION REPORT**

DATE: March 23, 1999

SUBJECT: **Floyd County Recycling Mercury Spill**
405 Watters Street
Rome, Floyd County, Georgia

FROM: Ted Walden, OSC
USEPA Region 4

TO: D.Lair,EPA
S. Hitchcock,EPA
C. Monell, EPA
D. Thornton, EPA HQ
K.Rasnick,EPA
M.Henderson,EPA
Ted Walden

I. BACKGROUND

SSID#	04ZZ
PROJECT CEILING:	N/A
LEAD AGENCY:	EPA, Region 4, ERRB 61 Forsyth St., Atlanta, Ga 30303
NPL:	N
FUNDING:	CERCLA
LEAD OSCs:	Ted Walden/John Nolen
Party Conducting Action:	Floyd County Recycling Center

II. SITUATION

Date of Notification:	12-Feb-99
Date Action Started:	09-Feb-99
Pollutant:	Mercury
Quantity Discharged:	2 to 4 ounces
Substantial Threat:	Small
Surface Water:	N/A
Source Identification:	Plastic test tube.

III. ACTIONS TAKEN

ERRB was notified by the Director of the Floyd County Recycling Center (Rome, Georgia) on the afternoon of 12-FEB-99, of a mercury spill in a classroom at the recycling center. The Director discovered the spill on 09-FEB-99 at 1500. Approximately 2 to 4 ounces of mercury was spilt by an unknown individual from a test tube onto a wood bookshelf and the linoleum floor. Mercury was also found in a toilet in an adjoining



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bathroom. The test tube was used as an exhibit in recycling presentations in the classroom.

The telephone duty OSC coordinated with the Floyd County Recycling Center on 12-FEB-99 and directed the Center to: 1) restrict access to the classroom and bathroom, 2) close off HVAC vents in the classroom and bathroom, and 3) hire a cleanup contractor.

The Center hired ENCON Systems, Inc. as a cleanup contractor. Cleanup activities were to begin on 17-FEB-99. OSCs Nolen and Walden arrived at the Center at 1000 on 17-FEB-99. The Center's contractor (ENCON) was on-scene and in the process of vacuuming visible mercury. ENCON used a mercury absorbing liquid in an attempt to clean the linoleum floor and recycling exhibits (glass bottles, aluminum cans, plastics, etc) on the bookshelf. ENCON was to remove the toilet and bookshelf for disposal.

A representative from the Floyd County Health Department was on-scene observing cleanup activities. OSCs Nolen and Walden contacted the ATSDR to obtain an acceptable mercury vapor concentration in ambient air for the classroom setting. The ATSDR recommended that mercury vapor concentrations should not exceed $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

OSCs Nolen and Walden recommended to the Director of the recycling center that 8 hour air sampling should be conducted at the completion of cleanup operations to confirm that the cleanup goal of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ mercury had been achieved.

OSCs Nolen and Walden departed at 1300 on 17-FEB-99.

IV. FUTURE ACTIONS

None.

V. ESTIMATED COSTS

EPA	\$315.00
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INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS FORM IS SUBJECT TO MINOR CHANGES.
OFFICIAL NRC REPORTS ARE SENT TO VNTSC ON A DAILY BASIS.

From: National Response Center
USCG HQ Washington, D.C.
1-800-424-8802

To: MR NOLEN
U.S. EPA IV
Incident Report # 473853

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

*Report taken by MST3 TURMAN at 17:00 on 12-FEB-99

Incident Type: FIXED

Incident Cause: UNKNOWN

Affected Area: TOILET

The incident was discovered on 09-FEB-99 at 15:00 local time.

Affected Medium: UNKNOWN OR OTHER

NOLL

REPORTING PARTY

Name: MARTA TURNER
Organization: ROME FLOYD COUNTY RECYCLI
Address: 405 WATTERS STREET
ROME, GA 30161

Day Phone: (706)2915266
Type of Organization: LOCAL GOV'T

To EPD
To DOI

SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: UNKNOWN

Type of Organization:

LAT N 34° 15' 33"
LONG W 85° 9' 17"

INCIDENT LOCATION

405 WATTERS STREET
ROME, GA 30161
County: FLOYD

RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

CHRIS Code: MCR Official Material Name: MERCURY

Also Known As:

Qty Released: 2.5 LBS(S)

Qty in Water: 0 UNK(S)

R-2 NOLEN
RESPONDER

SOURCE/CAUSE OF INCIDENT

PLASTIC TEST TUBE / MATERIAL WAS SPILLED FOR UNKNOWN REASONS / CALLER
STATED SHE DID NOT KNOW THE RELEASE WAS OVER A POUND WHEN IT WAS DISCOV

3 ~~025~~

On display in recycling center; community
service group spilled it out of tube

DAMAGE

Injuries: Fatalities: Evacuations: Damages: Air Close: Road Close:
N N

REMEDIAL ACTIONS

ISOLATED THE AREA / CONTACTED CLEAN UP COMPANY

NOTIFICATIONS BY CALLER

EPA: STATE: Y CG: OTHER: Y DESC: DNR / WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILIT

NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

ATSDR AL ATTN: ROBIN MOORE
12-FEB-99 00:00

(334)2065967

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*Report taken by MST3 TURMAN at 17:00 on 12-FEB-99

NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

U. S. EPA IV	MR NOLEN
12-FEB-99 17:09	
NOAA 1ST CLASS BB RPTS FOR GA	
12-FEB-99 00:00	(202) 5266329
GEORGIA EMERGENCY MNGMT AGENCY	
12-FEB-99 00:00	(404) 6357205

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MATERIAL IS FLOATING IN A TOILET / SMALL AMOUNTS WERE ALSO DISCOVERED ON THE FLOOR / NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

***** END OF REPORT # 473853 *****

Report any problems or Fax number changes by calling 1-800-424-8802
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>

*Consulted w/ ATS DR on air sampling clean
goals for H₂ in air.*

9 -3

8:30 - 2:30

6hr

147

165

\$312

24

27.49



Paula
Walraven

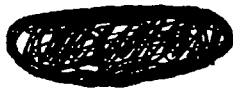
on floor ^{ward} on shelf & in toilet.

ENCON

Floyd Co. Health Dept

Marta Turner

Floyd Co Recycling



Hired contractor; secure area restricted
access to the classroom & bathroom.
Health Dept gave out info sheets on its
to members of the community group.



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(SPIL)

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FLOYD COUNTY RECYC. MERCURY SPILL

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RODS

- [Site Narrative at Listing](#) | [NPL Fact Sheet](#) | [Five-Year Reviews](#) | [Area Map](#)

Site Name: FLOYD COUNTY RECYC. MERCURY SPILL

Street:

City / State / ZIP: ROME, GA

NPL Status: Not on the NPL

Non-NPL Status: Removal Only Site (No Site Assessment Work Needed)

EPA ID: GASFN0406935

EPA Region: 04

County: FLOYD

Federal Facility Flag: Not a Federal Facility

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